

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

Regional Offices Update

Mollybeth ("Molly") Kocialski
Regional Director, Rocky Mountain Regional Office
August 18, 2016

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Meet the PTO Regional Directors

Christal Sheppard

Regional Director, USPTO – Midwest Regional Office

Hope Shimabuku

Regional Director, USPTO – Texas Regional Office

John Cabeca

Regional Director, USPTO – West Coast Regional Office

Molly Kocialski

Regional Director, USPTO – Rocky Mountain Regional Office

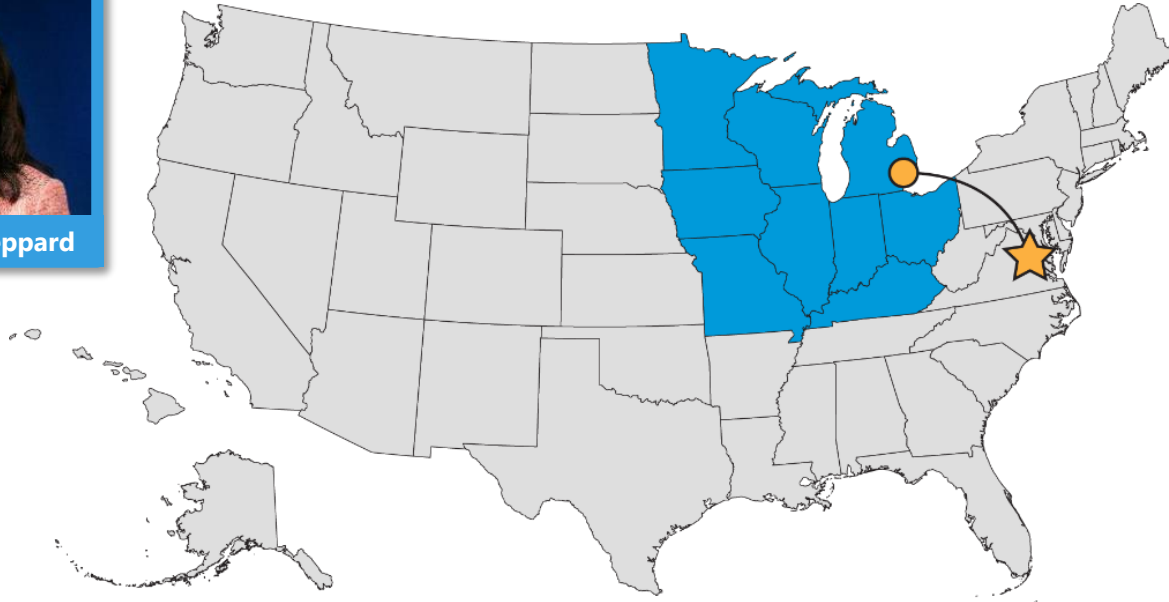
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Meet the Regional Offices: Detroit



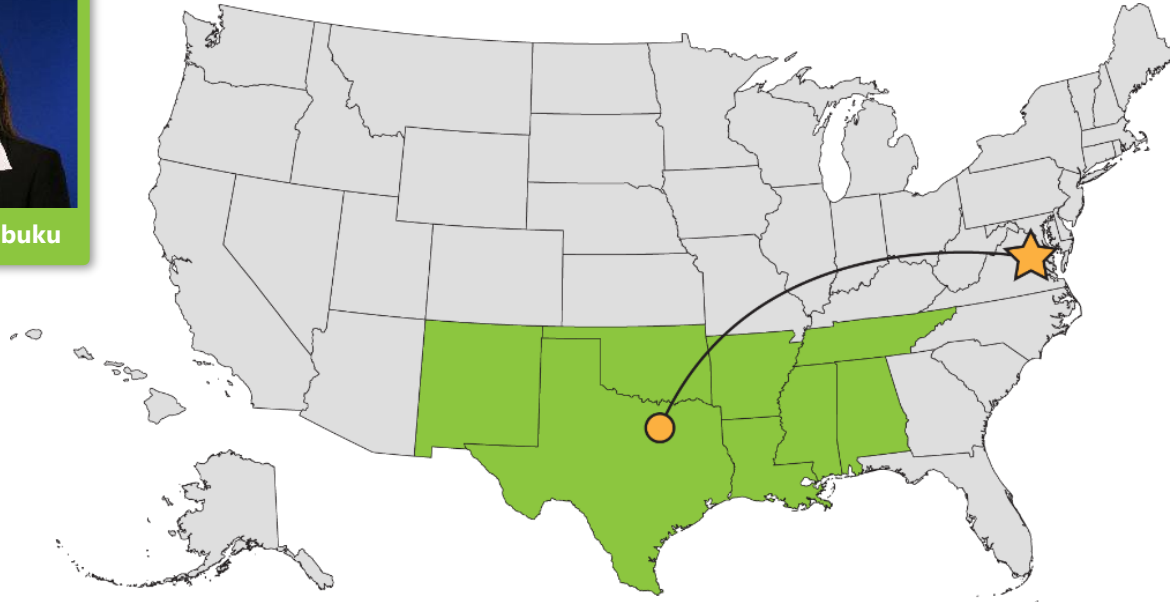
Christal Sheppard



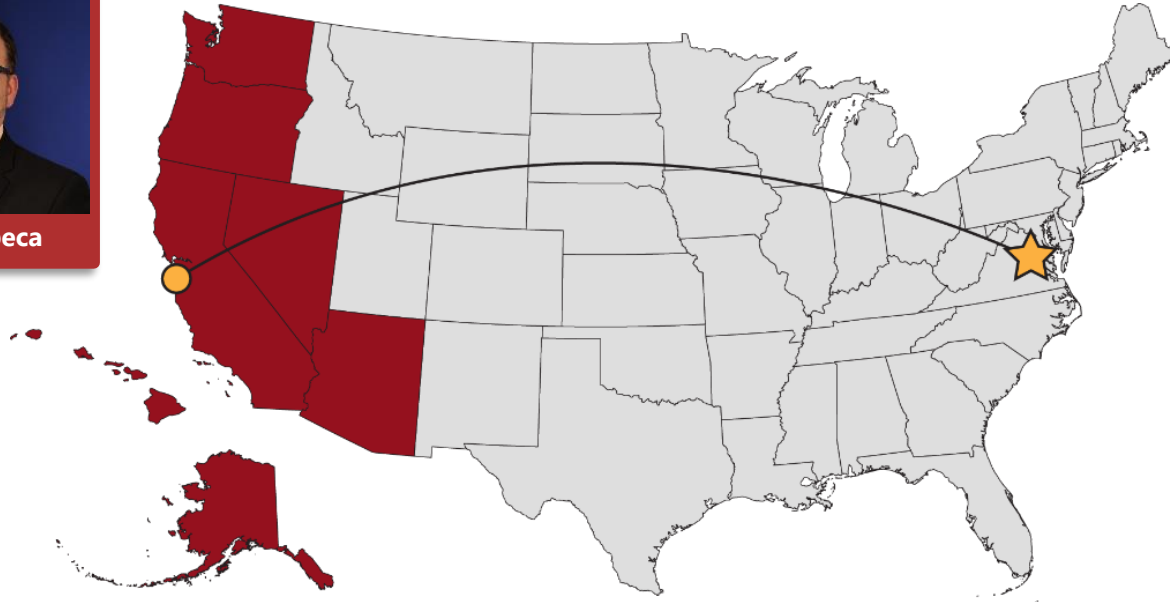
Meet the Regional Offices: Dallas



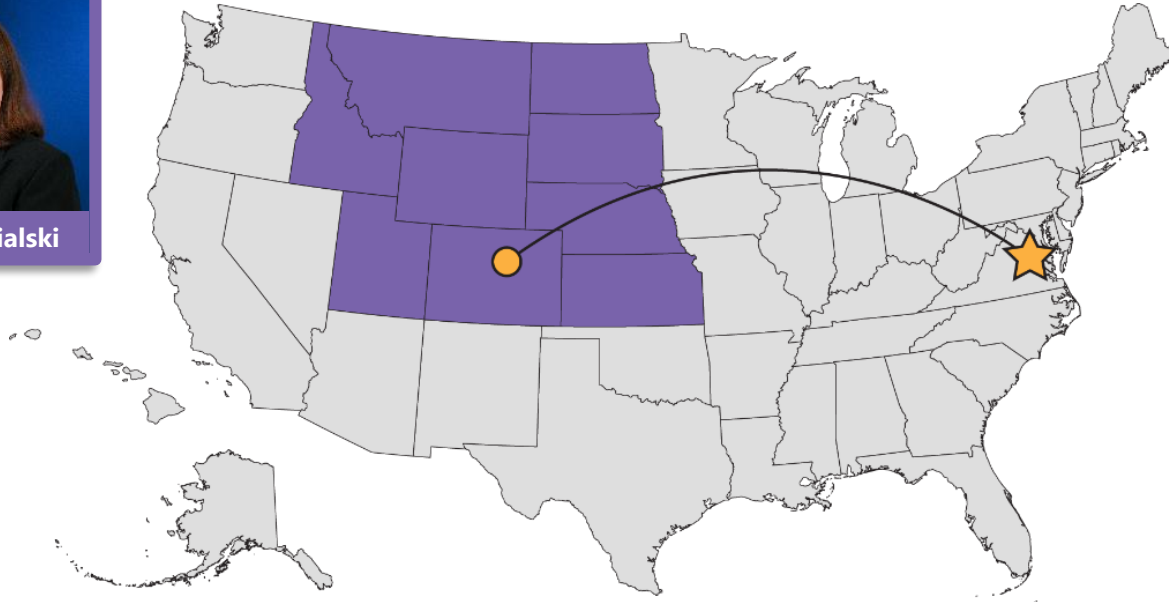
Hope Shimabuku



Meet the Regional Offices: San Jose



Meet the Regional Offices: Denver



Objectives of the Regional Office Model

- Recruit and retain highly qualified workforce – patent examiners and Patent Trial and Appeal Board Judges
- Act as a hub for IP outreach and education
- Provide easier access for USPTO resources
- Enhance stakeholder relationships
- Spur economic development as well as innovation

Regional Focus

- For All Levels – From K-12 to IP professionals
- From basic facts to updates on law and procedure
- Stakeholder roundtables
- International programs
- Just-in-time programming (e.g. FITF, Paralegal Workshops, etc.)
- Co-host programs with strategic community partners

Services to the Public:

- **Walk-in services** to obtain information about the USPTO
- **Workstations for searching** patents and trademarks
- **A hearing room** to host Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) and Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) proceedings – remotely as well
- **Interview rooms** to connect applicants to examiners working in the region, at HQ or across the country

Elijah J. McCoy United States Patent and Trademark Office, Detroit, Michigan

Midwest Regional Office

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin

Dr. Christal Sheppard, Director

Christal.Sheppard@uspto.gov

USPTO.gov/Detroit

Outreach Officer: Denise Sylvester

Denise.Sylvester@uspto.gov

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Detroit Highlights

- Operational at 300 River Place since July 2012
- 121 Examiners Trained / 11 Administrative Patent Judges
- Outreach Highlights

Patent Trademark and Resource Center Tour

- 7 Events between March and July 2016

K-12, University, and Law School Outreach

Monthly Programming

- Trademark Tuesdays
- Patent Wednesdays
- IP Basics and Resource Tour

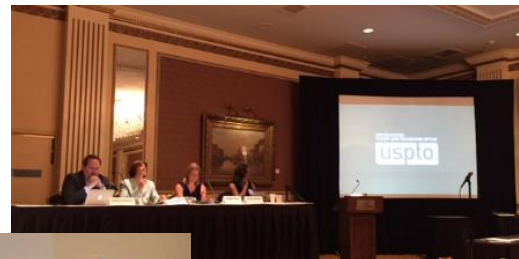
- Stakeholders Reached:
 - Approx. 5,500 between July 2012 and Jan 2015
 - Approx. 18,106* between Feb 2015 to Present



* - directly spoken to

Detroit Highlights cont.

- **April 4-5, 2016 – Additive Manufacturing User Group**
 - St. Louis, Missouri
- **April 14, 2016 – Chicago Women in IP**
 - Chicago, Illinois
- **May 18-20, 2016 – AIPLA Spring Meeting**
 - Minneapolis, Minnesota
- **June 3, 2016 – Michigan SBA Encore Entrepreneurs**
 - Detroit, Michigan
- **June 15, 2016 – Oakland County Economic Development Medical Main Street Roundtable**
 - Pontiac, Michigan
- **July 11, 2016 – STAIRS to Success: STEM & Information Research Skills**
 - Highland Heights, Kentucky
- **July 18 – 20, 2016 – Association of University Technology Managers Central Regional Meeting**
 - Milwaukee, Wisconsin



United States Patent and Trademark Office, Dallas, Texas

Texas Regional Office

Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas

Hope Shimabuku, Director

Hope.Shimabuku@uspto.gov

USPTO.gov/Texas

Outreach Officer: Filling Vacancy

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Dallas Highlights

- **Terminal Annex Federal Building**
Opened, November 2015
- Approximately 110 Patent Examiners by Q1FY17, 15 Patent Trial and Appeal Board Judges, and Outreach/Administrative Staff
- Regional Challenges:
 - Economic growth and size, wide variety of industries, and diverse international population
- Outreach Efforts
 - Texas Regional Patent & Trademark Seminars
 - Biotech Customer Partnership Meeting
 - Girl Scout IP Patch Day
 - Brazil PPH Information Meetings



Silicon Valley United States Patent and Trademark Office, San Jose, California

West Coast Regional Office

Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Nevada, Washington

John Cabeca, Director

John.Cabeca@uspto.gov

USPTO.gov/Silicon Valley

Outreach Officer: Ken Takeda

Ken.Takeda@uspto.gov

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Silicon Valley Highlights

West Coast Regional Office

- **San Jose City Hall**
 - Opened October 2015
 - About 125 Employees:
 - ~ 85 Patent Examiners/Managers
 - 25+ Patent Trial and Appeal Board Judges
 - + Outreach and Administrative Team
- **Working with Startups**
 - Speed Dating for Startups
 - Saturday Seminars
 - Monthly programs on Patent and Trademark Basics
 - 1 on 1 Assistance
- **Tech Specific Partnership Meetings**
 - Software, Biotechnology, Cybertechnology, Additive Manufacturing, Autonomous Vehicles, Smart Fabrics



United States Patent and Trademark Office, Denver, Colorado

Rocky Mountain Regional Office

Idaho, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas

Molly Kocialski, Director

Molly.Kocialski@uspto.gov

USPTO.gov/Denver

Outreach Officer: Josh Hallock

Josh.Hallock@uspto.gov

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Denver Highlights

- Byron G. Rogers Federal Building
Operational since July 2014
- Approximately 120 Employees
 - 80 Examiners
 - 22 PTAB Judges
 - Management and Outreach Team
- Priorities:
 - Educating startups and independent inventors
 - Supporting STEM education
 - Collaborating with region's federally-funded labs
 - Establishing robust partnerships with stakeholders at all levels, including federal, state and local agencies
- Over 11,500 Stakeholders Reached*



*Since January of 2016

uspto

